

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) In a device for editing and authoring object-based AV (audio and visual) contents using the MPEG-4(moving picture experts group 4) method, an object-based MPEG-4 contents editing and authoring device comprising:

an extensible description generator for receiving either of an MPEG-4 textual format or internal data structure information of object-based MPEG-4 contents, and MPEG-7(moving picture experts group 7) descriptions of the object-based MPEG-4 contents, and generating an XML (extensible markup language) based textual format file including the MPEG-7 descriptions, wherein the MPEG-7 descriptions are generated from the object-based MPEG-4 contents;

an extensible description/binary converter for receiving the XML based textual format file including the MPEG-7 descriptions generated by the extensible description generator, and generating ~~them as~~ a binary file from the XML based textual format file; and

an XML based contents storage unit for storing the XML based textual format file generated by the extensible description generator and the binary file generated by the extensible description/binary converter.

2. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, further comprising:

an MPEG-4 contents storage unit for storing the object-based MPEG-4 contents; and

an MPEG-7 description generator for generating MPEG-7 descriptions of the object-based MPEG-4 contents stored in the MPEG-4 contents storage unit.

3. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the XML based contents storage unit stores either of the textual format or the binary file generated on the XML basis, and storage information of an MPEG-4 contents storage unit of the object-based MPEG-4 contents related to the corresponding XML based file.

4. (Currently Amended) An object-based MPEG-4(moving picture experts group 4) contents editing and authoring method comprising:

receiving one of a textual file and an internal data structure of object-based MPEG-4 contents stored in a contents database;

receiving MPEG-7(moving picture experts group 7) descriptions of the object-based MPEG-4 contents, wherein the MPEG-7 descriptions are generated from the object-based MPEG-4 contents; and

combining either of the textual file or the internal data structure of the object-based MPEG-4 contents with the MPEG-7 descriptions, generating them into an XML (extensible markup language) based textual format file, and storing the XML based textual format file; and converting the XML based textual format file into a binary file.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising ~~converting the XML based textual format file into a binary file, and~~ storing the binary file.

6. (Currently Amended) An object-based MPEG-4(moving picture experts group 4) contents editing/authoring and retrieving device comprising:

a contents editor/author for receiving either of an MPEG-4 textual format or internal data structure information of object-based MPEG-4 contents, and MPEG-7(moving picture experts group 7) descriptions of the object-based MPEG-4 contents, combining them, editing or authoring them as an XML(extensible markup language) based textual format file or a binary file, and storing it, wherein the MPEG-7 descriptions are generated from the object-based MPEG-4 contents, wherein the contents editor/author comprises:

an extensible description/binary converter for receiving the XML based textual format file including the MPEG-7 descriptions, and generating a binary file from the XML based textual format file;

a contents storage unit for extracting MPEG-7 description information of the XML based textual format file edited, authored, and stored by the contents editor/author, and storing the MPEG-7 description information for a retrieval process; and

a retrieval browser/reproducer for providing a user interface for retrieving MPEG-7 description information stored in the contents retriever, ~~and reproducing the retrieved contents.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 6, wherein the contents editor/author comprises:

an extensible description generator for receiving either of an MPEG-4 textual format or internal data structure information of object-based MPEG-4 contents, and MPEG-7 descriptions of the object-based MPEG-4 contents, and generating an XML based textual format file including the MPEG-7 descriptions;

~~an extensible description/binary converter for receiving the XML-based textual format file including the MPEG-7 descriptions generated by the extensible description generator, and generating them as a binary file; and~~

an XML based contents storage unit for storing the XML based textual format file generated by the extensible description generator and the binary file generated by the extensible description/binary converter.

8. (Original) The device of claim 6, wherein the contents retriever comprises:

a file parsing module for receiving the XML based textual format file or the binary file produced using the MPEG descriptions, and extracting MPEG-7 descriptions included in the corresponding file;

an MPEG-7 description storage unit for generating the MPEG-7 description information extracted from the file parsing module into a database, and storing the information; and

a retrieval module for retrieving the MPEG-7 description information stored in the MPEG-7 description storage unit according to a request by a user, and outputting corresponding results.

9. (Original) The device of claim 6, wherein the retrieval browser/reproducer comprises:

a retrieval browser for receiving a retrieval request from a user, commanding the contents retriever to perform retrieval, receiving retrieval results, and outputting them to the user; and

a reproducer for reproducing the contents retrieved through the retrieval browser.

10-12. (Canceled)